



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

October 15, 2015

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PAUL'S NOTE

Political scientists sometimes refer to the American system of offices from the president on down to constable and school board being elected all at once as "the long ballot."

That phrase has some meaning here in Tucson this year with not only mayor and council being on the ballot, but also two charter changes, a referendum on salaries and seven bond proposals. Those of you in the Vail School District have an override to vote on as well.

Make sure to check both sides of your ballot. For many of us, some of the bond questions are on the

back page. We want to make sure that all of our voices are heard.

Remember that the deadline to request a mail-in ballot is Friday, October 23rd. Call the Pima County Recorder at 724-4330 to request one.

Are you ready for chili? Come down to the Reid Park Band Shell on Saturday between 10 am and 10 pm.

The Tucson Fire Fighters Local 479 chili cook-off benefits the Tucson Firefighters Adopt-A-Family Program, which assists needy families and children with clothing, food, basic

necessities and toys throughout the holiday season. Every year Local 479 serves over 750 gallons (which is over 24000 servings) of chili, and attract more than 10,000 people to the music and food festival. Firefighters from all over Pima County will compete for bragging rights to the best chili. . There will be a wide variety of chili from spicy hot to veggie. There are 30 booths in this friendly competition, each decorating with their own personal touch. There will also be prizes for best decorated booth and the team spirit award.

PAUL'S NOTE (CONTINUED)

This year's activities also include live music, a kid zone and trick-or-treating.

Sam Newsome received the Arizona AFL-CIO lifetime achievement award this week. He is the first Southern Arizonan to receive the award. Sam is one of Tucson's great African American leaders and has been a personal hero of mine for a long time. I was proud to be there when he was honored.



Sam moved to Arizona from Mississippi as a young man in 1957 when he was 17 years old. A few years ago he was interviewed by the Tucson Citizen and described his time under Jim Crow with two words: "It sucked."

He cast his first vote in 1960. His parents still lived under Mississippi's literacy tests and poll taxes, so Sam was able to cast a vote before the rest of his family did.

By that time, Sam had already been a union carpenter, the first African American to be in the carpenters union in Arizona. He rose through the ranks and became president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute. APRI's mission fit in well with what Sam saw growing up: registering voters and getting more young African-Americans into the construction trades. Since becoming head of APRI in 1974, the group has registered 50,000 voters and placed hundreds of people in apprenticeships.

I've watched Sam work with people, whether it's knocking on doors to register voters, talking to a young applicant for an apprenticeship or coaxing an extra bit of work from volunteers. People throw the phrase "real deal" around too much, but it's the best way to describe Sam. His is a genuine leadership we need more of in our town.

I hope that just because he got a lifetime achievement award that no one thinks he's done yet.

ENVISION TUCSON

This year's 5th annual Envision Tucson Sustainable Festival will take place October 18, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the YWCA, 525 Bonita Avenue. The Festival will showcase the many features of sustainable living in Tucson and our desert Southwest.

Envision Tucson Sustainable Festival will feature local organizations and companies with exhibits on key sustainability issues, from solar for the home to local and regional environmental concerns, from green homes to water efficiency, from recycling to school gardens, from co-op businesses to clean modes of transportation, and much more. With close to 40 exhibitors, vendors, and demonstrators, there'll be plenty of excitement and lots to do for all.

Throughout the day, local and native foods will be featured in food preparation demonstrations, and examples of solar cooking will demonstrate a useful way to be sustainable. Visionary speakers will address topics of local importance.

Come to the Festival: Explore what's going on now in our community, get more involved, learn new skills, and share your own vision of a sustainable community.

For more information: www.envisiontucson sustainable.org and like us on Facebook at Envision Tucson Sustainable.

HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

Broadway Intersection Park & Ride: This project is substantially complete, and we are delighted that we finally have the signs in place.

We are actively working on changing out the lighting fixtures in the parking lot. For those of you that don't live directly adjacent to the facility, the new LED lighting fixtures that were installed do not meet the City's requirements for lighting. We have pulled the fuses of the lights near the neighborhood, and are working with the lighting vendor to get the appropriate fixtures. LED lighting is quite different from the type of lighting the City used to use, and we are finding that not all fixtures are created equal. LED is a wonderful energy saver, but also needs to be selected for the right color and luminance to be compatible for our observatories and livability. We appreciate your patience while we get these lights adjusted.

Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street: The scheduled completion date is Sept. 20., 2016. We are rapidly moving forward on this project and are about five months ahead of schedule. We are wrapping up our water line connections at the side streets and there are only a few locations left where there will be restricted or closed access. As you probably know, if there are any water outages, they will be a night and you will receive a 48 hour advance notice. This work should be finished by next week.

CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

Halloween Parties: Udall Center will host a Halloween Party on Thursday, October 29 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$5.00. The event will have DJ music, dancing, costume contest, games, and food. The event will be held in the Udall Center, Multipurpose Room.

Seniors will have an opportunity to enjoy a field trip to the Freedom Center for a Halloween Party on Friday, October 30. Departure from the Carol West Senior Addition is 1:00 p.m. and return is 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$3.00.

Card Games: The Carol West Senior Addition will host a Card Game Marathon on Thursday, October 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$3.00. A light lunch will be provided.

Pickle-ball: A Pickle-ball Tournament will be held on Friday, October 16.

For questions on the activities listed above, please contact the Carol West Senior Addition, 791-4121.



PARKS PROGRAMS

Spring 2016 Program Guide and Class Catalog: Watch for the Spring 2016 Program Guide and Class Catalog to be available Monday, November 9, 2015. It will be available for free pick-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. For questions or more information, contact the Registration Office at 791-4877.

Boo Bash Event: The Boo Bash event will be held at the Lincoln Park, 8155 E. Poinciana Drive on October 24, 2015 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event will include hay rides, games, and trunk treats. Free admission.

Jenny Finch Softball Camp: Hosted at Lincoln Park, October 24-25. Visit <https://www.jenniefinch.com/softball-camps> for information.

Field Closures: The following park facilities are currently closed for maintenance: Udall Soccer Fields A-E, Lincoln Softball Fields 5-8 and Ft. Lowell Soccer and Field 8.

Winter Pool Closures: Ft. Lowell and Udall Pools will close November 6, 2015 through March 31, 2016. Pools will reopen on April 1, 2016.

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Remember to like
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals
and Families in Need**

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/
Dance Equipment**

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 20**. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session.

There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

